

Provo City Library Controversy Centers on Proposed Location

By NANCY BRINGHURST
Herald Staff Writer

Provo residents, all in favor of a new library but not in agreement about its location, filled city council chambers Tuesday.

The issue before council members is becoming more complicated as residents delineate into groups, each favoring a different proposal.

VaLoy Merchant, representing "Friends of the Library," repeated the group's position that the library should be housed in a newly constructed building just west of the city center.

"The Provo Library Board spent long hours studying the alternatives," she said. "The board's only interest is in which will provide the best library service. The board decided to build on land the city owns."

Several members of the audience stated they thought the city needs a cultural center. A complex to house and support the arts, along with a new library.

"There is a real resurgence in the economic feasibility of restoring old buildings," said Shirley Paxman. "Now it's up to the community to decide if they want a cultural arts center, if it's economically feasible for us."

According to Richard K. Melchin of Fielding Land Enterprises Ltd., Canadian owners of the Academy Square, the city should buy the square and renovate it into a cultural arts center. Melchin indicated the firm would have to tear down the square if it wasn't used for that purpose, as studies had shown it wasn't suitable for anything else.

Brigham Young University years ago sold Academy Square, its predecessor, to a private party. Hal Visick, BYU counsel, said Tuesday that an "historic easement" clause in the original contract forbids exterior destruction of the square.

"The easement is owned by the BYU Maeser Foundation," he said. "The owners can gut the inside, but they cannot

tear down the building without our permission." Visick said BYU considered selling the

Paxman, and other supporters of using the square, said the city should seriously consider

professional librarian, said the information business is in a state of revolution.

"A library of the future needs to be designed with this in mind," he said. "New buildings don't have any restrictions. Only a new building will have the flexibility to accommodate our future needs."

JoAnn Losee told council members she had the answer to everyone's problem. She and her husband own the Kress Building on Center Street in Provo and are offering the site for \$1 million. That price includes the 30,000 square feet building, the land and parking area.

"We are Provo people and want to keep business in downtown Provo," she said. "The Kress building has the exact measurements you need, favorable financial terms, will keep traffic downtown, and can handle library parking needs. Unless we support the nucleus, we can forget it!"

Bill Anderson, Chairman of the Cultural Affairs Board, said without question the city's greatest need is a physical facility to house all the talent within Provo.

"We have a tremendous amount of artists here," said Anderson. "We seriously need to look at getting a cultural arts center. But we can't let emotion lead us into economic tragedy."

Michael Flynn, a professional actor and director, said he would be happy to rent space from the Academy Square if it was developed into a cultural arts facility.

"People throughout the county would be drawn to the center and would pay to enjoy the entertainment," said Flynn, who sees the site as Provo's only acceptable facility with such potential.

One Provo resident told council members his only concern is whether his children have a nice library to visit. Several audience members applauded his comment.

Eugene England, a BYU English professor, said the community is beginning to sense the need of preserving Provo's history.

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-- Shirley Paxman



square because of the easement clause.

"The easement must follow with each sale," he said. If the present owners came with a wrecking ball tomorrow, we'd be there to stop it."

Melchin was unavailable for comment at press time about the historical easement clause and how it may affect the firm's plans for Academy Square.

"The easement is owned by the BYU Maeser Foundation," he said. "The owners can gut the inside, but they cannot

der the idea even if the square isn't in danger.

"Restoring an old building can cost a third of what building a new one can ultimately cost," she said. "We could watch Academy Square fall down brick-by-brick, but since the city needs a cultural center, why don't we research the idea of using it?"

Marvin Wiggins, a member of the library board and a

Degrees Upon 2,241 Students

board of Trustees, will address the graduates and will receive an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree.

Speaking as representatives of the graduates will be twins Gregory C. and Geoffrey B. Pingree of Lafayette, Calif., both receiving bachelor's degrees in English. Seth Merrill, president of the BYU Alumni Association, will inspect the graduating class into that organization.

President Holland will also deliver a message to the graduates and confer degrees upon them, assisted by Dr. Jae R. Ballif, provost and academic vice-president. Elder McConkie will give concluding remarks.

Music for the services will be provided by the University Chorale under the direction of Dr. Donald J. Staheli.

BYU will confer 55 doctoral degrees, 418 master's degrees, 1,617 bachelor's degrees and 151 two-year associate degrees.

A total of 1,210 (54 percent) of the graduates are men and 1,031 (46 percent) are women.

The youngest graduate is Joaquin C. Taitano II, 19, of Fallon, Nev., who is graduating in microbiology. The oldest graduate in the 109-year history of BYU is Lyle M. McDonald of Orem, 84, who is graduating in elementary education.

The doctoral degrees will be awarded during the general commencement services while all others will be presented at individual college convocations at the following times and places:

Biology and Agriculture: 1 p.m., Wilkinson Center Ballroom. Speakers John D. Jeppson, B.S., microbiology, Sugar City, Idaho; and Randall D. Burr, B.S., zoology,

Salina.

Family, Home and Social Sciences: 1 p.m., Marriott Center. Speaker Barbara L. Bond, B.A., psychology, Tulsa, Okla.

Fine Arts and Communications: 1 p.m., de Jong Concert Hall, Harris Fine Arts Center. Departmental presentations: Art — William K. Barnhart, B.F.A., Muncie, Ind.; Communications — Margaret Balkman, B.A., Long Beach, Calif.; Design — Marilyn Groberg Powell, B.A., Provo; Music — Mary Jane Guymon, B.Mu., Bountiful; Theatre — Richard J. Slawson, B.A., Vancouver, Canada.

Humanities: 1 p.m., Joseph Smith Auditorium. Speakers Elder Dallin H. Oaks, former BYU president and newest LDS apostle; Grant R. Hardy, B.A., Greek, Paradise, Calif.

Physical Education: 1 p.m., Provo Tabernacle. Speakers Donna Pope, B.S., physical education-sports, Gooding, Idaho; Marilyn W. Barrett, M.A., physical education-dance, West Jordan.

Education: 3 p.m., de Jong Concert Hall, Harris Fine Arts Center. Speakers Rhonda Seamons, B.S., elementary education, Roy;

Harold Shaw, Education Specialist Certificate, educational administration, Eureka.

Engineering and Technology: 3 p.m., Wilkinson Center Ballroom. Speakers Merrill Bushnell, vice-president and manager (retired), Pacific States Cast Iron Pipe Co., Provo; Scott E. Anderson, B.S., chemical engineering, Salina; Ronald G. Mills, B.S., electrical engineering, Billings, Mont.

Nursing: 3 p.m., Joseph Smith Auditorium. Speakers Suzanne Brady, A.A., Salt Lake City; Julie Hatch, A.A., La Habra Heights, Calif.; Robin Sessions Lindsay, B.S., Modesto, Calif.; Carla Dalley, M.S., Arvada, Colo.

Business and Graduate School of Management: 3 p.m., Marriott Center. Speakers Paul B. Anderson, master of accountancy, Salt Lake City; Deanna Dastrup, B.S., office education, Sigurd; Dr. Mark W. Cannon, administrative assistant to the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Physical and Mathematical Sciences: 5 p.m., Wilkinson Center Ballroom. Speakers Kyle D. Cattani, B.S., computer science, Reedley, Calif.; Richard C. Wirthlin, B.A., chemistry, Bloomfield, Mich.

it, Its Sources Board Members

Bus fares for Provo-Orem would be lower than in Salt Lake Valley, said Miller — 40 cents for off-peak rides and 50 cents during major use periods. Current service on the private Provo City Lines is 45 cents. Additionally, senior citizens could buy season fare for \$9, half the regular adult price of \$18; and students could get a discount, paying \$13 for a season pass.

An express route providing round-trip service to Salt Lake City eight times a day would cost \$2 one way.

Kemp said legislator Sam Taylor's cry for "no fare" is a political ploy because the state representative is up for re-election this year. "There are no no-fare systems in this country," he said.

Twenty buses operating in Provo-Orem by January would all be lift-equipped to serve the area's 300 or so handicapped individuals, so there would be a \$12,000 tab per bus to install the equipment — a formidable expense for new systems starting up, said Kemp.

The chairman added that the most expensive and most profit-

able avenue for Provo-Orem to establish a bus system is to go with the UTA because it has already worked out all the bugs in the system at great cost.

A federal transit worker said the UTA has an enviable reputation nationwide for running an efficient operation. Kemp said the private bus line operating in Provo cannot begin to offer services a government system can and still make a profit. He said the private operator is agreeable to selling out to the UTA if voters approve a merger.

Miller added that the board of directors ordered the UTA to never operate "in the red." The UTA, he says, has no outstanding financial debt and close to \$60 million in assets and rolling stock and investments.

Densely said people wonder how influential Provo-Orem would be on the UTA Board of Directors. Two representatives from this area would complete a 12-member board. Kemp said the two members' influence is brought into perspective when they are teamed up with four other members also representing areas outside of Salt Lake City.

Accidental Gunshot Kills Highland Boy

FATAL — An 8-year-old Highland boy died Tuesday afternoon at American Fork Hospital from a gunshot wound received in an accidental shooting at his home with a large-caliber handgun. Joshua Daniel Nielsen, son of James G. and Jacqueline Hairr Nielsen, died at the hospital where he was taken by ambulance after the shooting at about 1 p.m.

VANDALISM — An Orem woman found a man's large, black dead dog on the front seat of her car Monday, and Orem police had the unhappy task of notifying the dog's owner of his pet's fate. The woman said the incident may be related to a note left at her house last fall from someone threatening to call police if she didn't make her two dogs shut up. Later, someone shot out two lights at her southwest Orem residence. Her dogs are still alive. The dead dog was put in the car sometime between Saturday and Monday morning.

BURGLARY — An Orem woman reported Monday morning that her purse was stolen from a cupboard in her southeast Orem apartment. Entry was through a torn screen door. Besides personal items, the purse contained \$62 in cash and two checks totaling \$545.

INJURY ACCIDENT — Orem

police cited a bicyclist for failure to yield the right of way Tuesday evening, resulting in a collision with a Toyota pickup truck driven by Susan Boyles Souza, 22, of Kemmerer, Wyo. Police say bicyclist Mitchell P. High, 16, Orem, started across the intersection at 1100 E. Center St. and hit the right front of the truck going west. High complained of left arm and shoulder pain.

QUESTIONING — Orem police officials called in the Secret Service from Salt Lake City, and a representative of the Utah County Attorney's Office Tuesday night to question a 34-year-old man passing through Orem who told police a group of heroine dealers had been trying to get him to assassinate the President of the United States. The man was picked up after a woman called in to report he was bothering her on North State St. Authorities released the man.

Fun with Photography

